Buffo- 28 July 1843-

My dear Doctor,

Your letter of the 25th reached me this Morning, & the sight of your well known Characters at once recalled old times, & Botanical Associations before the arrival of the Sheets from Silliman, some hours subsequently- Accept my best thanks for all your care of my fame in the matter of the Phacelia, demands also my acknowgts. tho' to confess a truth, you have been more thoughtful for me, in the matter, than I should have been for myself. had the Mss. come into my hands- The whole article seems to be a very slip-shop affair, but will not injure the author, in my estimation- I should have been pleased to have met you in Nyk. tho' I should scarcely have enjoyed your Society, as I was very unwell during the whole of my visit- I was attacked with the influenza about 2 mos. ago, from which I have never thoroughly recovered, & when in N.Y. I was laid up with remittent fever- I am, at this time, as weak as Infancy, often hardly able to walk, & my spirits, withal, exceedingly low- Under these

circumstances you will not be surprized to learn that I feel very lonely - I wish you much happiness in your projected Tour, but if Mr S. be, as you report, so very energetic a man, I shall expect to hear that like the famed Kilkenny Cats - you've eat each other all up - But if he comes in any degree short of your measure of restlessness, you will doubtless "use him up" or kill him - I have never opened a Botan.l Bk. nor looked at a Specimen, (I have none with me) since I left Ny. K as I remember that you only valued Mem for their Botany, you will no doubt consider me, as I often do myself, good for nothing - D.r Chapman wrote me from Southampton Mass. 4 June who as proposed passing the Summer - From Sartwell I had a lr. 1 ulto. He thinks he shall be at Niag.a & visit me here next Sept.r - This is the whole of my Botan.l news, & it is really too bad to mulct you in the sum of 25 ℔ for such a lr. which I should not, in Charity, ful disposed to do, were it not that you P.S. seems to contemplate my acknowl.t of your communication. Business here is very bad, & you rightly infer that I am not likely to remain long amongst this Community, but I will not trouble you, on the score of Mapes, as without reference to my opinion of their general efficacy,

you may; at least, assure yourself that I should place no value on any which might emanate from your quarter, or the clique to which, I conceive, your "we" has reference - What my next move may be, or whether I shall move myself, or be carried hence, seems very doubtful, but if I only get strength enough for the undertaking, it is not improbable that I may take a look at the Western Country - If not - I shall, perhaps, run over to U. Can.a for a short time - What I hear of the state of Society in the Ny. Prov. is very pleasing to me, but business prospects are discouraging there as elsewhere - I am glad to hear that you are preparing to attack Ericaceæ tho' my interest in the Flora is now rather a public than a personal one, feeling that I have less chance than even our friend D.r Darlington of living to see it finished - Some day or other I suppose I may come across his Polyg. Bath. which I am glad to learn he has published - I hear nothing from Macrae, & am wondering whether he has transferred his Pondweeds Correspond.ce from me to you - I believe there are no Bot.s here - I sometimes hear the ladies, at my boarding Ho. discoursing about their "Geraniums" but as I never say anything, they have no idea of my botan.l talent - Give my sincere regards to Torrey, who will always be dear to my recollections - If you think me worth powder & shot,

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xx & I should be alive when you return from the South I should be pleased to hear of your proceedings, but you had better first get my address from Greenwich St. as, I am not likely to be here, if living. Give my kind respects to Mr. Oakes whom I am now never likely to see, & believe me,

With the kindest & most friendly wishes for your welfare & happiness, Yrs. truly Asa Gray

Prof. A. Gray
Harvard Un.
Cambridge
Mass.

I should like one of Tuckerman's Lace papers, if you have plenty. & the list of the 150 plants which Geyer is offering to sell, to which you refer p. 227 Sill. Journ. They may be sent by mail, but not here unless within a fortnight or so.